

MEMO

LDWSF
12.3.54 v5
03/05/82
BAP
JS
DMY

March 5, 1982

To File - Lone Star Cement Co.
From Bruce Burrow
Subject Complaint from Mike Patricelli

At 0940 on 2-24-82 Mike Patricelli of Lone Star Cement Co. contacted Doug Hilderbrand to register a complaint. Mr. Patricelli stated that a "whitish" substance was being discharged into the adjacent Waterway #6 via a large storm sewer overflow.

I arrived on the scene at 1000 (2-24-82) and observed a widespread, milky-white discoloration in the water of Waterway #6. This particular body of water lies to the east of and immediately adjacent to the Lone Star Cement facility. A 72-inch storm overflow empties into the waterway; the storm sewer drains Ward St. and Minor Ave. N. and adjoining streets east of Fairview Ave. N. I took two photos at this time.

After my initial observations, I spoke with Mr. Patricelli about the incident. He related that a sheen on the water, reminiscent of kerosene or paint thinner, accompanied the whitish discoloration. Because there had been no odor detected and there was no widespread "slick" when I arrived, I doubt if the oily sheen Mr. Patricelli observed was directly related to the milky substance. The oil was probably either at the outfall or present in the storm sewer in small, residual amounts before the whitish substance passed through the storm sewer. The spill was first noticed at about 0830 and had rapidly spread radially from the storm overflow. By the time I arrived, the line of the spill had almost reached Lone Star's pier line.

Following my interview with Mr. Patricelli, I walked and drove around the area drained by this storm sewer system. Main storm lines run down Ward St. and Minor Ave. N., join on the east of Fairview Ave. N. and run north into a outfall structure at the head of Waterway #6. The only significant observation was of a mobile wash company cleaning trucks in the south loading dock area of the Van de Kamp bakery (823 Yale Ave. N.). I questioned an employee of Ballou's Mobile Wash (Division of Olympic Cleaners, 228-0946) who was cleaning the Van de Kamp truck; he claimed to have only entered the area at about 1000 and begun operations at 1015. No further suspect areas were observed; all other catchbasins in tributary drains were dry and showed no signs of recent use. Before leaving the area, I again checked the storm overflow. A large quantity of soap suds was floating near the outfall structure. I assume these suds were resultant from the mobile wash operation at the Van de Kamp bakery.

 METRO

USEPA SF



1316369

Following is a description of the five photos taken during my investigation:

- photo 1 view S.W. at Lone Star dock - 1000
- photo 2 view S to area of storm outfall - 1000
- photo 3 view W along Lone Star dock showing discoloration
 advancing toward, not from dock - 1010
- photo 4 view N.W. showing line of discoloration
 advancing toward Lone Star dock - 1010
- photo 5 soap suds immediately in front of storm
 outfall structure - 1050

John Bernard, Seattle Sewer Utility, and Barbara Smith, DOE, were notified of this incident later in the morning. Mr. Bernard stated that the Engineering Department would check the area for interior connections to the storm sewer system. DOE had no plans for action in this case. A Metro trouble-call form was completed for this complaint.

Conclusion:

The source of this particular incident remains unknown. Time allowing, the storm sewer system should be identified to all sources. The possibility exists that an illegal, interior connection to the storm sewer has been made and is occasionally used for industrial discharges. The substance observed was not noticeably irritable to wildlife; ducks and gulls were normally active foraging in the midst of the discoloration.



WATER QUALITY TROUBLE CALL REPORTING FORM

STAFF B. Burrow SECTION Ind. Waste DATE 2/24/82 STAFF TIME REQ'D (HRS) 2.0
TIME 0940-1140

Contact Person: Mike Patricelli Representing: Lone Star Cement
Address: 901 Fairview Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone Work: 622-2900 Home: 392-1596

Type of Contact: Inquiry Request Water Quality Problem Other: _____

Crisis ☐ Non-Crisis ☒

(South End)

Receiving Water or System: LK. Union Protocol Followed: Figure II-6

Location and/or Directions to Site: Thomas Bros. Map ☒ Page 14 Side Sewer Card # ☒
Adjacent to Fairview Ave. N. + Ward St. King City 4081-1+2

Type/Quantity of Material Involved (If Known): Unknown

Pollutant Source: City of Seattle storm sewer overflow, Waterway #6

Area or Miles Affected: Enclosed area of Waterway #6

Responsibility: Unknown Name: _____ Phone No: _____

Address: _____

Known Permits: _____

Cause: Milky-white substance clouding water, sighted initially at 0830 by complainant, no obvious hazard apparent.

Other Agencies/Personnel Informed Date Time Assistance Requested: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Seattle Sewer Utility/John Bernard, 2/24/82, 1130, None

Dept. of Ecology/Barbara Smith, 2/24/82, 1135, None

Other Metro Staff Informed: Doug Hilderbrand

Disposition/Action Req'd: No Further Action Follow Up Other

Field Inspection By: Bruce Burrow

Documentation: TC Form Only ☐ Technical Memo Attached ☒

Field Investigation Notes

Photos Taken ☒ Samples Taken ☐

Laboratory Personnel Informed: _____ Date/Time: _____

Number of Samples: _____ Parametric Coverage: _____

Date Results Available: _____

General Comments:

Seattle sewer utility may check area for interior storm sewer connections.

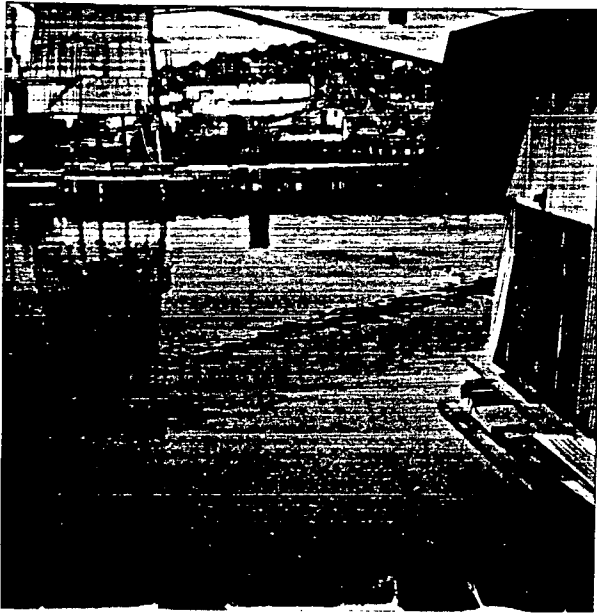


Photo #1
2/24/82, 1000

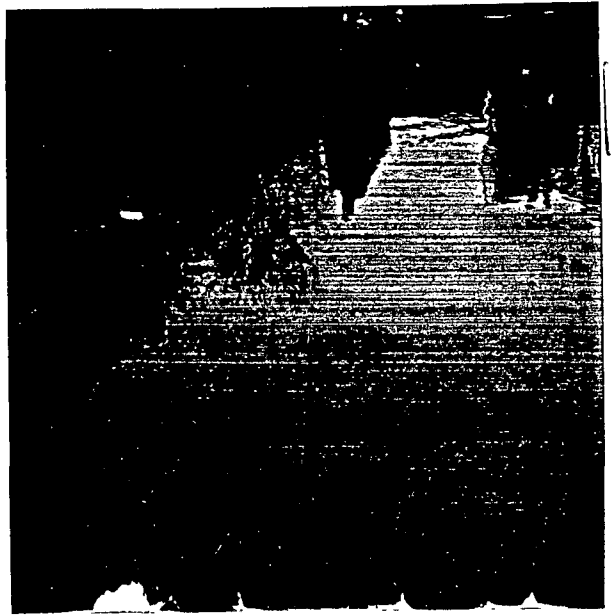


Photo #2
2/24/82, 1000



Photo #3
2/24/82, 1010

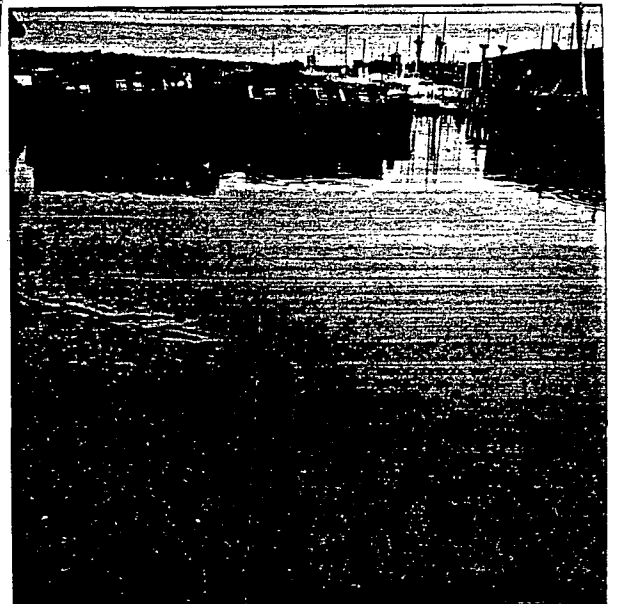


Photo #4
2/24/82, 1010



Photo #5
2/24/82, 1050